

### **REMARKS**

The Office Action dated December 30, 2008 has been received and carefully noted. The above amendments to the claims, and the following remarks, are submitted as a full and complete response thereto.

Claims 1 and 13 have been amended to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter of the invention. Claims 2-6, 8-12, 16 and 19-21 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. No new matter has been added and no new issues are raised which require further consideration or search. Claims 1, 13, 14, 15, 17, 18 and 22-26 are presently pending.

The Office Action indicated that claims 17, 18 and 22-26 are allowable and that claims 10 and 16 contain allowable subject matter and would be allowed if amended into independent form. Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for the allowance of these claims. Accordingly, claims 1 and 13 have been amended to incorporate the allowable subject matter of claims 10 and 16, respectively, and claims 2-6, 8-12, 16 and 19-21 have been cancelled. Therefore, all of the presently pending claims 1, 13, 14, 15, 17, 18 and 22-26 are allowable. Withdrawal of all outstanding rejections and allowance thereof of the application is kindly requested.

For at least the reasons discussed above, Applicants respectfully submit that each of the presently pending claims 1, 13, 17, 18 and 22-26 are in condition for allowance. It is therefore respectfully requested that all of claims 1, 13, 17, 18 and 22-26 be allowed, and this application passed to issue.

If for any reason the Examiner determines that the application is not now in condition for allowance, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact, by telephone, the applicants' undersigned representative at the indicated telephone number to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this application.

In the event this paper is not being timely filed, the applicant respectfully petitions for an appropriate extension of time. Any fees for such an extension together with any additional fees may be charged to Counsel's Deposit Account 50-2222.

Respectfully submitted,



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Kamran Emdadi  
Registration No. 58,823

**Customer No. 32294**  
SQUIRE, SANDERS & DEMPSEY LLP  
14<sup>TH</sup> Floor  
8000 Towers Crescent Drive  
Vienna, Virginia 22182-6212  
Telephone: 703-720-7800  
Fax: 703-720-7802

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